UNITED
NATIONS

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General Assembly

Distr.
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A/AC.109/L.1813
14 June 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES, PETITIONS, INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Rapporteur: Ms. Cecilia MACKENNA (Chile)

PITCAIRN

A. Consideration by the Subcommittee

1. The Subcommittee considered the Territory of Pitcairn at its 674th, 675th and 687th meetings, on 12 and 14 April and 7 June 1994.

2. During its consideration of the item, the Subcommittee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1179).

3. The Subcommittee conducted a thorough review of the political, economic and social conditions in the Territory in the light of the information contained in the working paper prepared by the Secretariat.

4. The Subcommittee noted with regret that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the administering Power concerned, did not participate in its deliberations. In this connection, and in view of the efforts deployed by the Special Committee to streamline and rationalize its work, the Subcommittee once again appeals to the United Kingdom to reconsider its position and to resume its participation in the work of the Special Committee.

B. Adoption of the report

5. Having carefully examined the situation in Pitcairn, the Subcommittee adopted by consensus a draft decision on the Territory at its 687th meeting, on 7 June 1994, for consideration by the Special Committee (see para. 7 below).

6. The Subcommittee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Draft decision

7. The Subcommittee submits the following draft decision concerning Pitcairn for action by the Special Committee:

> "The Special Committee, having examined the situation in Pitcairn, reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of Pitcairn to self-determination in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, which fully applies to the Territory. The Committee further reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory. The Committee urges the administering Power to continue to respect the very individual lifestyle that the people of the Territory have chosen and to preserve, promote and protect it. The Committee decides to continue to examine the question of Pitcairn at its next session and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session."

UNITED NATIONS

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14 June 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES, PETITIONS, INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Rapporteur: Ms. Cecilia MACKENNA (Chile)

ST. HELENA

A. Consideration by the Subcommittee

1. The Subcommittee considered the Territory of St. Helena at its 674th, 675th and 687th meetings, on 12 and 14 April and 7 June 1994.

2. During its consideration of the item, the Subcommittee had before it the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Territory (A/AC.109/1182).

3. The Subcommittee conducted a thorough review of the political, economic and social conditions in the Territory in the light of the information contained in the working paper prepared by the Secretariat.

4. The Subcommittee noted with regret that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the administering Power concerned, did not participate in its deliberations. In this connection, and in view of the efforts deployed by the Special Committee to streamline and rationalize its work, the Subcommittee once again appeals to the United Kingdom to reconsider its position and to resume its participation in the work of the Special Committee.

B. Adoption of the report

5. Having carefully examined the situation in St. Helena, the Subcommittee adopted by consensus a draft decision on the Territory at its 687th meeting, on 7 June 1994, for consideration by the Special Committee (see para. 7 below).

6. The Subcommittee adopted the present report at the same meeting.

C. Draft decision

7. The Subcommittee submits the following draft decision concerning St. Helena for action by the Special Committee:

"The Special Committee, having examined the question of St. Helena, reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of St. Helena to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960. The Committee urges the administering Power to continue to take, in consultation with the Legislative Council and other representatives of the people of St. Helena, all necessary steps to ensure the speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of the Territory and, in that connection, reaffirms the importance of promoting an awareness among the people of St. Helena of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination. The Committee reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Power to promote the economic and social development of the Territory and calls upon the administering Power to continue, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to strengthen the economy, to encourage local initiative and enterprise and to increase its assistance to diversification programmes with the aim of improving the general welfare of the community, including the employment situation in the Territory. The Committee urges the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the people of St. Helena to own and dispose of the natural resources of the Territory, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources. The Committee reaffirms that continued development assistance from the administering Power, together with any assistance that the international community might be able to provide, constitutes an important means of developing the economic potential of the Territory and of enhancing the capacity of its people to realize fully the goals set forth in the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations. The Committee, in that connection, welcomes the assistance rendered by the United Nations Development Programme and invites other organizations of the United Nations system to assist in the development of the Territory. The continued presence of military facilities in the Territory prompts the Committee, on the basis of previous United Nations resolutions and decisions concerning military bases and installations in colonial and Non-Self-Governing Territories, to urge the administering Power to take measures to avoid the involvement of the Territory in any action that could endanger peace and security in neighbouring States. The Committee considers that the possibility of dispatching a United Nations visiting mission to St. Helena at an appropriate time should be kept under review, and decides to continue to examine the question of St. Helena at its next session and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session."

UNITED NATIONS

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A/AC.109/L.1815
27 June 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES, PETITIONS, INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Rapporteur: Ms. Cecilia MACKENNA (Chile)

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I. CONSIDERATION BY THE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE TERRITORIES OF AMERICAN SAMOA, ANGUILLA, BERMUDA, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, CAYMAN ISLANDS, GUAM, MONTSERRAT, TOKELAU, TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS AND UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

1. The Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance considered the Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands at its 675th to 687th meetings, between 14 April and 7 June 1994.

2. During its consideration of these items, the Subcommittee had before it working papers prepared by the Secretariat on these Territories (A/AC.109/1180-1181, 1183, 1185-1186, 1188-1190, 1192-1193).

3. The Subcommittee conducted a thorough review of the political, economic and social conditions in each of these Territories in the light of the information contained in the working papers prepared by the Secretariat and in the statements of the representatives of an administering Power (New Zealand) and of territorial Governments (Tokelau and Guam), who participated in the discussions.

4. In the course of its review, the Subcommittee considered, in particular, such issues as the following:

(a) The quality and timeliness of the information contained in the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on the above Territories;

(b) The obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to provide timely and up-to-date information on the Territories under their administration;

(c) The need to dispatch United Nations visiting missions to the Territories as a means of obtaining first-hand information on these Territories;

(d) The constitutional situation particularly in the Territories where a constitutional review is under way or planned;

(e) Residency requirements in some Territories for voting in referendums for self-determination;

(f) Measures to be taken to increase the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee;

(g) Progress achieved in the field of political education;

(h) The position of the local political parties on the question of self-determination and independence;

(i) The membership and participation of the Territories in regional and international organizations;

(j) The question of military installations in some of these Territories and the impact, if any, that a withdrawal of such military installations may have on their economies;

(k) The percentage of expatriates in the local civil service and the need to intensify the training of local personnel in order to increase their participation in the decision-making process;

(l) The heavy dependency of the majority of the Territories on tourist and international finance industries and the need to diversify the economies of these Territories;

(m) Land ownership by foreigners;

(n) The preservation of the environment and the protection of the surrounding areas of the Territories against ecological degradation and natural disasters;

(o) Illegal activities including drug trafficking and money laundering by some interest groups in some of the Territories and efforts by the territorial Governments, assisted by the administering Powers, as well as by regional and international organizations, to eliminate those activities;

(p) The granting of fishing licences and the related question of illegal fishing in the territorial waters of some of the Territories.

5. The representative of New Zealand, as an administering Power, participated in the discussions of the Subcommittee during its consideration of Tokelau. A special representative of the Council of Faipule (joint chairmen of the General Council), Tokelau and the Administrator of Tokelau took part in the deliberations of the Subcommittee. Two representatives of the Governor of Guam, the Director of Policy and Communications in the Office of the Governor and the Executive Director of the Guam Commission on Self-Determination, also participated in the discussions. The Subcommittee expressed its appreciation for that participation and for the additional information provided by the administering Power concerned and the representatives of Guam.

6. The Subcommittee noted with regret that the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, the administering Powers for the majority of the above Territories, did not participate in its deliberations.

II. ADOPTION OF PARTS A AND B OF THE DRAFT CONSOLIDATED RESOLUTION ON AMERICAN SAMOA, ANGUILLA, BERMUDA, BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, CAYMAN ISLANDS, GUAM, MONTSERRAT, TOKELAU, TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS AND UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS

7. The Subcommittee, at its 687th meeting, on 7 June 1994, adopted by consensus parts A and B of the draft consolidated resolution for consideration by the Special Committee.

A. Consolidated draft resolution on American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands

GENERAL

The Special Committee,

Having considered the questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands,

Having examined the report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, those resolutions adopted by the Assembly at its forty-eighth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, containing the principles which should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations,

Conscious of the need to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of those Territories, in view of the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by the year 2000,

Noting the decision of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland as administering Power to effect a policy change aimed at enhancing its relations with its Caribbean dependent Territories,

Noting with satisfaction the participation of New Zealand in the work of the Special Committee,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the necessity of promoting economic stability and diversifying and strengthening further the economies of the respective Territories as a matter of priority,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Aware of the usefulness both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

Expressing its conviction that referendums and other forms of popular consultation on the future status of the Non-Self-Governing Territories are an appropriate means of ascertaining the wishes of the peoples in those Territories with regard to their future political status,

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide the most effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and considering that the possibility of sending further visiting missions to those Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers should be kept under review,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank,

Bearing in mind the fragile economy of the small Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and recalling General Assembly resolutions and the report of the United Nations regional seminar on decolonization held in 1993 in connection with the Plan of Action of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, as well as the position taken by the territorial Governments, contained in the report of the seminar, 1/

1. Approves the report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance relating to American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands;

2. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the people of those Territories to self-determination and independence in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

3. Reaffirms also that it is ultimately for the people of those Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, in that connection, calls upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments, to facilitate programmes of political education in the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of the possibilities open to them in the exercise of their right to self-determination, in conformity with the legitimate political status options clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV);

1/ See A/AC.109/1159.

4. Reiterates that it is the responsibility of the administering Powers to create such conditions in the Territories as will enable their people to exercise freely and without interference their inalienable right to self-determination and independence;

5. Calls upon the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as administering Power, to give due consideration to any proposals made by the Territories under its administration in the framework of its review of policy and management of its Caribbean dependent Territories, as well as of any future policy changes affecting them;

6. Requests the administering Powers to encourage and to facilitate the participation of elected representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration and other appropriate authorities or personalities duly mandated by those representatives in the work of the Special Committee and its Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, as well as in the work of the Committee's seminars;

7. Reiterates the view that such factors as territorial size, geographical location, size of population and limited natural resources should in no way serve as a pretext to delay the speedy exercise by the peoples of those Territories of their inalienable right to self-determination;

8. Reaffirms the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of those Territories, and recommends that priority should continue to be given, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, to the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

9. Urges the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments concerned, to take or continue to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of those Territories to own, develop or dispose of the natural resources of those Territories, including marine resources, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources;

10. Also urges the administering Powers to take all necessary measures to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories under their administration against any environmental degradation, and requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in those Territories;

11. Calls upon the administering Powers to continue to take all necessary measures, in cooperation with the respective territorial Governments, to counter problems related to drug trafficking, money laundering and other offences;

12. Urges the administering Powers to foster or continue to foster close relations between the Territories and other island communities in their respective regions, and to promote cooperation between the respective territorial Governments and regional institutions, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system;

13. Also urges the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in its work by providing timely and up-to-date information for each Territory under their administration, in accordance with Article 73 e of the Charter, and by facilitating the dispatch of visiting missions to the Territories to secure firsthand information thereon and to ascertain the wishes and aspirations of the inhabitants;

14. Appeals to the administering Powers to continue or to resume their participation in future meetings and activities of the Special Committee and to ensure the participation in the work of the Special Committee of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

15. Urges Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to achieve the eradication of colonialism by the year 2000, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the action of the Special Committee towards the attainment of that objective;

16. Invites the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to initiate or to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the social and economic life of the Territories;

17. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in formulating their assistance programmes, to take due account of the text entitled "Challenges and opportunities: a strategic framework", which was adopted unanimously by the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Island Developing Countries and Donor Countries and Organizations; 2/

18. Decides to continue the examination of the question of the small Territories and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence, and to report thereon to the Assembly at its fiftieth session.

B. Draft resolutions on specific conditions prevailing in American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands

1. American Samoa

The Special Committee,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting that efforts are currently aimed at increasing the production of food crops for local consumption in American Samoa,

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2/ See A/CONF.147/5-TD/B/AC.46/4.

Taking note of the efforts by the Governor to reduce government spending and the Territory's budget deficit,

Noting that American Samoa is the only United States Territory in which employers are allowed to pay workers less than the mainland minimum wage,

Noting also that the Territory continues to experience the shortage of qualified medical personnel,

Aware that one third of the population is dependent on village-based water systems which often lack basic sanitary conditions,

Recalling the dispatch in 1981 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to promote the economic and social development of the Territory in order to alleviate its financial problems;

2. Calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with relevant regional and international institutions, to assist the Territory in increasing its agricultural output;

3. Urges the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to ensure that the salaries paid to employees are on a par with the cost of living in the Territory;

4. Requests the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to assist in alleviating the shortage of medical personnel in the Territory;

5. Requests the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to extend to the whole population of the Territory adequate water services with appropriate sanitary conditions and, in this framework, to study the feasibility of making the Government's central water system available to all;

6. Notes that a period of thirteen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission as early as possible.

2. Anguilla

The Special Committee,

Referring to resolution A above,

Aware that Anguilla's educational system is facing severe problems, including overcrowding, insufficient equipment and supplies in the schools, as well as a high percentage of undertrained teachers and the loss of teachers to the private sector and to other parts of the civil service,

Aware also of the inability of Anguilla's educational system to alleviate the problem of scarcity of skilled national personnel, particularly in the fields of economic management and tourism, and that educational reform is of paramount importance to the achievement of the long-term economic goals of the Territory,

Noting that the Government is placing great emphasis on manpower development and training,

Further noting that the Government's Public Sector Investment Programme for 1991-1995 is expected to be financed by external donors through grants and concessional loans,

Aware that the exploitation of deep-sea resources would help reduce the risk of depleting the Territory's own fishing resources as a result of overfishing,

Recalling the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory in 1984,

1. Requests the administering Power, in considering, adopting and/or implementing policy decisions likely to affect its dependent Territories, to continue to grant the highest attention to the interests, needs and wishes of the territorial Government and the people of Anguilla;

2. Calls on national, regional and international institutions specializing in the field of education to grant Anguilla funds and equipment, and to make available to the Territory teacher training courses, to enable it to overcome its educational problems;

3. Further calls on all countries, institutions and organizations endowed with expertise in manpower training to grant Anguilla assistance in this field;

4. Invites the international donor community to contribute generously to the Government's Public Sector Investment Programme for 1991-1995, and to grant the Territory all possible assistance to enable it to reach the main development objectives established by the Executive Council of the Territory;

5. Requests all countries and organizations with deep-sea fishing experience to facilitate the acquisition by the Territory's fishing sector of larger boats and fishing equipment, and to provide the Territory's fishermen with deep-sea fishing training programmes;

6. Notes that a period of ten years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

3. Bermuda

The Special Committee,

Referring to resolution A above,

Bearing in mind the general elections held in the Territory in November 1993 and the proposed referendum on Bermuda's independence to be held in 1994,

Noting the negative effects of the international recession on Bermuda's economy,

Noting further the recent review of the criminal justice system in the Territory,

Noting with concern the incidence of crime in the secondary schools and noting also the planned restructuring of the public school system,

Expressing the view that the removal of military bases and installations from the Territory could expedite the full implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Noting that the Territory has never been visited by a United Nations visiting mission,

1. Expresses the view that the referendum on the future status of Bermuda is an appropriate means for the people of the Territory to decide their own future;

2. Notes with satisfaction that the economy of the Territory has begun to recover and that the territorial Government continues to place emphasis on the general good management of the economy of Bermuda;

3. Calls upon the administering Power to ensure that the criminal justice system is fair to all inhabitants of the Territory;

4. Takes note of the plans of the territorial Government to restructure the entire educational system with a view to facilitating wider access to higher education and to training more Bermudian students in the skills required to satisfy the employment needs of the Territory;

5. Takes note of the decision by Canada, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America to close their respective military bases in Bermuda in 1995;

6. Again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory as early as possible.

4. British Virgin Islands

The Special Committee,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting the request of the Territory for a review of its Constitution and noting also the appointment by the administering Power of the Constitutional Review Commission,

Noting the measures taken by the territorial Government to develop the agricultural, industrial, educational and communications sectors,

Taking note of the desire of the Territory for membership in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other regional and international organizations,

Noting that the Territory's unmet manpower requirements continue to be a critical constraint to its economic growth,

Recognizing the measures being taken by the territorial Government to prevent drug trafficking and money laundering,

1. Requests the administering Power to take into account the wishes and interests of the Government and the people of the Territory in connection with the constitutional review;

2. Further requests the administering Power and all financial institutions to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in order to enable it to mitigate the effects of the international economic recession and to pursue its development programmes;

3. Reiterates its call upon the administering Power to facilitate the admission of the Territory to associate membership in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, as well as its participation in other regional and international organizations;

4. Calls upon the United Nations Development Programme to continue its technical assistance to the British Virgin Islands, bearing in mind the vulnerability of the Territory to external economic factors and the scarcity of skilled workers in the Territory;

5. Also calls upon all countries and organizations with expertise in the development of skilled labour to assist the territorial Government in every possible way in the implementation of its educational and manpower training programmes;

6. Notes with satisfaction the measures being taken by the territorial Government to prevent drug trafficking and money laundering, and urges the administering Power to continue its assistance to the Territory in those endeavours;

7. Notes that a period of eighteen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

5. Cayman Islands

The Special Committee,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting that the amended Constitution was brought into force in the Cayman Islands on 1 February 1994,

Aware of the economic priorities established by the territorial Government,

Noting that there is an urgent need for the training of nationals in the technical, vocational, managerial and professional fields,

Also noting the actions taken by the territorial Government to implement its localization programme to promote increased participation of the local population in the decision-making process in the Cayman Islands,

Noting the Territory's dependence on imported agricultural products,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking and related activities,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts of the territorial Government, the Governments of other countries of the region and the administering Power to prevent and repress illicit activities such as money laundering, funds smuggling, false invoicing and other related frauds, as well as the use of and trafficking in illegal drugs,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Requests the administering Power to provide the territorial Government with all required expertise to enable it to achieve its economic aims;

2. Urges the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to facilitate the expansion of the current programme of securing employment for the local population, in particular at the decision-making level;

3. Calls upon the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to promote the agricultural development of the Cayman Islands;

4. Requests the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue and increase their programmes of assistance to the Territory with a view to strengthening, developing and diversifying its economy;

5. Calls upon the administering Power to continue to take all necessary measures, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to counter problems related to money laundering, funds smuggling and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking;

6. Notes that a period of seventeen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

6. Guam

The Special Committee,

Referring to resolution A above,

Recalling that in a referendum held in Guam in 1987, the people of Guam endorsed a draft Commonwealth Act which would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power providing internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the indigenous Chamorro people to self-determination for the Territory,

Aware of the continued negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act and on the future status of the Territory, with particular emphasis on the questions of the evolution of the relationship between the United States of America and Guam, self-determination of the Chamorro people and participation of Guam in international organizations,

Noting the appointment on 3 November 1993 by the administering Power of a Special Representative for Guam Commonwealth issues,

Cognizant that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for a reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough and expeditious transfer of property to the people of Guam,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

Aware of the potential for diversifying and developing the economy of Guam through commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities,

Noting with concern the escalating crime rate in the Territory,

Recalling the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Calls upon the administering Power to continue to conduct expeditiously its negotiations with the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act and on the future status of the Territory;

2. Expresses the hope that the appointment by the administering Power of a Special Representative for Guam Commonwealth issues would facilitate the ongoing discussions on the political status of Guam;

3. Requests the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to expedite the transfer of land to the people of the Territory and to take the necessary steps to safeguard their property rights;

4. Requests the administering Power to continue to recognize and respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people and to take all necessary measures to respond to the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the immigration issue;

5. Further requests the administering Power to continue to support appropriate measures by the territorial Government aimed at promoting growth in commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities;

6. Urges the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in crime prevention;

7. Notes that a period of fifteen years has elapsed since the last United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

7. Montserrat

The Special Committee,

Referring to resolution A above,

Taking note of the position of the territorial Government that, while independence is both desirable and inevitable, it should be preceded by economic and financial viability sufficient to sustain Montserrat as an independent State,

Expressing concern at the high incidence of drug trafficking and money laundering in the Territory,

Taking into account the membership of Montserrat in regional and international bodies and the outstanding request of the Territory for readmission to associate membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

Aware of the Government's policy to continue to train and develop local human resources,

Aware also of the Government's policy to achieve optimal self-sufficiency in food production within five years,

Recalling that the last United Nations Visiting Mission to the Territory took place in 1982,

1. Requests the administering Power to work towards promoting the economic and social development of the Territory with a view to its attaining self-determination and independence;

2. Notes the expressed preference of the territorial Government for independence within a political union with the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States;

3. Requests the administering Power, competent regional and international organizations, as well as countries in a position to do so, to grant the Government of Montserrat every assistance it requires to achieve its stated goal of improving the efficiency and productivity of the public service through training at all levels;

4. Reiterates its call upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to take, as a matter of urgency, the necessary steps to facilitate the readmission of Montserrat as an associate member of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

5. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other multilateral financial institutions, to continue to expand their assistance to the Territory in the strengthening, development and diversification of the economy of Montserrat in accordance with its medium- and long-term development plans;

6. Urges the administering Power to continue its assistance to the Territory in the prevention of drug trafficking and money laundering;

7. Notes that a period of twelve years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of a visiting mission to Montserrat as early as possible.

8. Turks and Caicos Islands

The Special Committee,

Referring to resolution A above,

Noting recent changes to the Constitution of the Territory and the intention of the territorial Government to continue to campaign for further constitutional changes,

Noting also the different views expressed by the elected representatives of the Turks and Caicos Islands on the question of the future status of the Territory,

Aware of the decision of the administering Power to implement a policy change aimed at establishing better dialogue, coordination and cooperation between itself and its Caribbean dependent Territories,

Noting the emergency measures taken by the territorial Government to cut budget deficit and government spending,

Noting also the commitment of the territorial Government to reform the public service to achieve greater efficiency and to implement its policy of localization of employment,

Noting further the Government's expressed need for development assistance to achieve its stated goal of economic independence by the year 1996,

Noting also the Government's decision to establish an Investment Bank in order to attract substantial investments world wide for much needed projects,

Noting further that 90 per cent of the food consumed in the Territory is imported, and that the Government has exerted efforts to improve the agriculture and fisheries sectors,

Aware of the Government's efforts to develop a management plan to control all marine resources exploitation,

Aware also of the Government's tourism policy to establish national standards for the tourism industry,

Noting the number of unqualified teachers and the number of expatriate staff in the educational system of the Territory,

Noting with interest the statement made and the information provided by an elected member of the Territory's Legislative Council in March 1993 to the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance on the overall political, economic and social situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands,

1. Reiterates that it is ultimately for the people of the Territory themselves to determine their own future through the exercise of their right to self-determination and independence;

2. Invites the administering Power, in implementing policy changes concerning its dependent Territories, to continue to take fully into account the wishes and interests of the Government and people of the Turks and Caicos Islands;

3. Calls upon the territorial Government to continue to promote alternative employment opportunities for those civil servants whose employment will be terminated as a result of the public service reform and the planned reduction of employees in the service;

4. Also calls upon the Government to initiate a comprehensive training programme to ensure that the employment of expatriates in the Territory's labour force is not prejudicial to the recruitment of suitably qualified and available islanders;

5. Calls upon the specialized agencies and other institutions of the United Nations system to explore concrete ways of assisting the Turks and Caicos Government to reach its stated goal of achieving economic independence by 1996;

6. Notes with satisfaction the increase in aid, particularly financial assistance, granted to the territorial Government by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and invites the latter to maintain this level of assistance;

7. Calls upon all national, regional, interregional and international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to take all necessary steps to assist the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands in the establishment and/or operation of its Investment Bank;

8. Urges the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to assist the territorial Government in increasing the efficiency of the agricultural and fisheries sectors;

9. Also urges the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the problem of environmental pollution and degradation;

10. Calls upon all countries and organizations with experience in the training of teachers to extend generous assistance to the Territory in this field, with particular emphasis on the training of its nationals;

11. Draws the attention of the administering Power to the statement made and the information provided in March 1993 to the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance by the elected member of the Territory's Legislative Council on the political, economic and social situation in the Territory;

12. Notes that a period of fourteen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

9. United States Virgin Islands

The Special Committee,

Referring to resolution A above,

Bearing in mind the results of the referendum on political status held in the Territory on 11 October 1993,

Noting also the continuing interest of the territorial Government in seeking associate membership in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and observer status in the Caribbean Community, and its inability, for financial reasons, to participate in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Health Organization,

Aware of serious fiscal problems of the territorial Government and of the measures being implemented by the territorial Government to decrease the budget deficit,

Noting the necessity to further diversify the Territory's economy,

Noting also that the question of the transfer of Water Island to the Territory is still under consideration,

Noting further that in 1993, the territorial Government purchased the assets of the West Indian Company which had significant property and development interests in the Charlotte Amalie Harbour,

Noting with concern the escalating crime rate in the Territory,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

1. Reiterates its request to the administering Power to facilitate as appropriate the participation of the Territory in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Caribbean Community, as well as in various international and regional organizations in accordance with the policy of the administering Power and the terms of reference of such organizations;

2. Requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in its efforts to balance the budget and to diversify the Territory's economy;

3. Invites the administering Power, as a matter of urgency, to facilitate the transfer of Water Island to the territorial Government;

4. Takes note of the purchase by the territorial Government of the assets in the Territory of the West Indian Company;

5. Requests the administering Power to continue to assist the Territory in crime prevention;

6. Notes that a period of seventeen years has elapsed since a United Nations mission visited the Territory and again calls upon the administering Power to facilitate the dispatch of such a mission as early as possible.

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION
WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING
OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL
COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

REPORT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES, PETITIONS, INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE

Rapporteur: Ms. Cecilia MACKENNA (Chile)

QUESTION OF DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON DECOLONIZATION

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with its programme of work for 1994, adopted at its 674th meeting, on 12 April 1994, the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance considered the question of dissemination of information on decolonization at its 681st, 682nd, 683rd and 685th meetings, on 16, 19, 23 and 26 May 1994, respectively.

2. In its consideration of the item, the Subcommittee held consultations with representatives of the Department of Public Information and of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat in the area of dissemination of information on decolonization.

II. CONSULTATIONS WITH THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

3. In his statement before the Subcommittee, the representative of the Department of Public Information reviewed the multimedia activities of the Department, which included the issuance and dissemination of press releases and United Nations publications, and the production and distribution of radio and television programmes. He also drew attention to the relevant activities carried out by the United Nations information centres. The Department continued to disseminate information materials to more than 1,300 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) associated with the United Nations. Further, it responded to public inquiries and complied with requests for information on decolonization by distributing, as handouts or through the mail, publications, pamphlets, booklets and brochures.

III. CONSULTATIONS WITH THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS

4. The representative of the Department of Political Affairs reviewed the activities of the Department in 1993. There had been an acceleration of activities following the implementation of specific measures called for by relevant resolutions of the General Assembly. By its resolutions 47/24 of 11 December 1992 and 48/53 of 10 December 1993, the most recent on the dissemination of information, the Assembly, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to continue to take concrete measures through all the media at his disposal, including publications, radio and television, to give widespread and continuous publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization.

5. The activities of the Department of Political Affairs in 1993 had included, as in previous years, three major elements. First, the production of the Decolonization bulletin series; secondly, oral dissemination of information through speeches and lectures at conferences organized by universities and various professional groups; and thirdly, the systematic distribution of documents on decolonization issues, particularly in connection with regional

seminars. The Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information had closely coordinated the above activities.

6. With regard to the first element, three bulletins had been issued during 1993. Decolonization bulletin No. 44 outlined the political and constitutional development of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands (Micronesia); No. 45 covered the work of the Special Committee in 1992 and of the General Assembly (Fourth Committee) at its forty-seventh session; and No. 46 covered the regional seminars organized by the Special Committee on decolonization within the context of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (St. George's, Grenada, 17-19 June 1992 and Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, 8-10 June 1993). Steps had already been taken towards the publication of a further series of bulletins.

7. An important component of the Department's activities had been to provide substantive advice to the Department of Public Information in the preparation of published materials, such as articles on decolonization, which had subsequently appeared in the UN Chronicle. The Department had also cooperated with the Department of Public Information in the preparation of a number of pamphlets on various aspects of decolonization. Prior to publication, these information materials had been carefully reviewed, verified and updated by the Department of Political Affairs. Following past practice, the Department contributed articles covering trusteeship and decolonization questions to the 1992 edition of the Yearbook of the United Nations.

8. The representative of the Department said that the Department of Public Information had helped to publicize the decolonization work of the United Nations among the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories. In this connection, he mentioned that the regional seminars organized by the Special Committee during the past three years had all recommended that measures should be taken to increase the flow of information between the United Nations and the Territories in both the Pacific and the Caribbean regions. He emphasized the excellent cooperation between his Department and the Department of Public Information.

9. The Department had also cooperated with the Department of Public Information in disseminating information to the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories through the various United Nations information centres. This had facilitated a two-way flow of information between the Territories and the Department of Public Information which, through the information centres, had been providing valuable feedback on its activities in the field of decolonization. The information centres had conducted their activities as best they could within the resources available to them, given the financial situation.

10. The representative of the Department said that the information centres could play a valuable role in obtaining information on the Non-Self-Governing Territories through direct visits and contacts. In the absence of visiting missions, such regular visits would be of great benefit both to the Organization and to the Territories concerned.

11. Staff of the Special Committee secretariat had been very active in the oral dissemination of information through speeches and lectures at seminars and symposia organized by universities or socio-professional groups, both in New York and elsewhere in the United States.

12. The Department of Political Affairs also attached great importance to the distribution of documents dealing with decolonization issues. The staff of the Department had taken particular care to reply to individual requests for information and documents on the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization.

13. The representative of the Department of Political Affairs said that the regional seminars on decolonization organized regularly by the United Nations in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly had served as a most efficient and important channel for the dissemination of information on decolonization. United Nations documents had been distributed widely during the regional seminars held in Grenada in 1992 and in Papua New Guinea in 1993. In this connection, he mentioned the seminar in Papua New Guinea in which many Non-Self-Governing Territories and some administering Powers had been represented. That seminar had provided the participants with a unique forum for exchanging views and an excellent opportunity for sharing information on the Territories concerned.

14. The representative of the Department of Political Affairs said that the Department would take into consideration the guidelines and recommendations the Subcommittee would make at the conclusion of its current session.

IV. WEEK OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLES OF ALL COLONIAL TERRITORIES, AS WELL AS THOSE IN SOUTH AFRICA, FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM, INDEPENDENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS (23-27 MAY 1994)

15. In accordance with its programme of work for 1994, adopted at its 674th meeting, on 12 April 1994, the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance considered the question of the Week of Solidarity at its 685th meeting, on 26 May 1994.

16. The Chairman of the Subcommittee made the following statement on the occasion of the Week of Solidarity:

> "In 1972, the General Assembly, in its resolution 2911 (XXVII), addressed an appeal to the Governments and peoples of the world to observe annually a Week of Solidarity with the Colonial Peoples of Southern Africa. The Week was to start on 25 May, which marked Africa Liberation Day.
>
> "In 1982, the General Assembly expanded the scope of the Week of Solidarity to include its support for the peoples of all colonial Territories, as well as those in South Africa, fighting for freedom, independence and human rights. This was in full accord with the purposes and tenets embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and in conformity

with the principles enshrined in the historic Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

"During the past decades, through the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the decolonization process has accelerated spectacularly. A large number of the former colonies have been able to exercise their inalienable right to self-determination and millions of men and women have finally been able to pursue their own destinies.

"All these accomplishments would have been unthinkable had it not been for the historic foresight of the peoples of the United Nations, which had manifested itself in the momentous Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

"The most remarkable achievement of the decolonization process during the past decade has been Namibia's advent to independence through the successful exercise by its people of their right to self-determination in free and fair elections under the control and supervision of the United Nations.

"This year, solidarity and support for the people of South Africa helped bring about the successful outcome of the first democratic elections in South Africa that ended decades of apartheid and opened the way to the establishment of a united, non-racial and democratic society in that country. On 10 May, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and other world leaders joined the people of South Africa to celebrate one of the happiest days in Africa's history, the inauguration of Nelson Mandela as the first democratically elected State President of the Republic of South Africa.

"Finally, for almost a quarter of a century, the Week of Solidarity stood as a tribute of the United Nations to the courage and perseverance of millions of men and women fighting for freedom, independence and human rights. The Special Committee notes with great satisfaction that the international community's solidarity with and support for the peoples of all colonial Territories, as well as those in South Africa, who had been struggling for freedom, independence and human rights, contributed to the successful achievement of the goals set forth in General Assembly resolution 2911 (XXVII).

"On the eve of the fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations, we hail these fundamental achievements of the world Organization in the field of decolonization and project our vision of the future world, the world striding towards the cherished and noble goal of eradicating colonialism by the year 2000."

17. The Subcommittee expressed the view that the commemoration of the Week of Solidarity should continue as long as there were peoples who had not yet exercised their right to self-determination.

V. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

18. Having concluded its examination of the item, the Subcommittee submits the following conclusions and recommendations for action by the Special Committee:

(1) The Special Committee reiterates the importance of effecting the widest possible dissemination of accurate information on decolonization to further the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960) and to mobilize world public opinion in support of the peoples of colonial Territories in their efforts to achieve self-determination, freedom and independence.

(2) The Special Committee reiterates the great importance it attaches to the work of the Department of Political Affairs. The Committee urges the Department to continue to discharge its mandate, taking into account all the Territories under the consideration of the Committee.

(3) While noting the active participation of the Department of Public Information in the work of the Special Committee and its efforts to produce and disseminate information on decolonization, to monitor the responses received from the United Nations information centres and to report thereon, the Committee requests the Department:

(a) To continue, through all the means at its disposal, its work of publicity in the field of decolonization, basing its activities in this regard on the Charter of the United Nations; the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples; the Plan of Action for the Full Implementation of the Declaration contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 35/118 of 11 December 1980; Assembly resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, entitled "International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism", and the proposals contained in the report of the Secretary-General, dated 13 December 1991, 1/ to serve as a plan of action therefor; the items on the agenda of the Special Committee; and all relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and of other organs of the United Nations active in the field of decolonization;

(b) To underline in all its activities that, despite major achievements in the process of decolonization, colonialism has not been completely eradicated and that the activities of the United Nations in this field should be given high priority until all the goals of the Declaration have been achieved;

(c) To continue to disseminate, particularly through parliamentary bodies, NGOs, mass media and universities, resolutions and decisions of the United Nations on decolonization, including those adopted by the Special Committee, as well as other basic materials concerning decolonization, and to distribute them, especially through United Nations information centres, in local languages when appropriate, in particular in those regions where there are still Non-Self-Governing Territories, and in countries that are administering Powers;

(d) To adopt measures aimed at providing full coverage of all activities of relevant United Nations bodies in the field of decolonization in press releases in both English and French;

(e) To utilize materials pertaining to the participation of specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the decolonization process, and to distribute those materials, as appropriate, through the United Nations information centres.

(4) The Special Committee requests the Department of Public Information to provide it with feedback reports from the United Nations information centres regarding their dissemination of information on decolonization.

(5) The Special Committee requests the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the Department of Political Affairs, to continue with its speaking engagements at university campuses on the subject of decolonization and to inform the Subcommittee on the experience and the results achieved.

(6) The Special Committee requests the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs to continue to take into consideration the important role being played by NGOs in the decolonization process and in the dissemination of information on the situation in all the remaining colonial Territories under consideration by the Committee.

Notes

1/ See A/46/634/Rev.1.